

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
TORRANCE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance Parks and Recreation Commission convened in a regular session at 7:02 p.m. on Wednesday, October 12, 2005, in the West Annex meeting room at Torrance City Hall.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Cook, Perkins, Robbins, Smoot,
Taniguchi, Tookey, and Chairperson McGee.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Recreation Services Administrator Jones and
Senior Administrative Analyst Witzansky.

3. FLAG SALUTE

Senior Administrative Analyst Witzansky led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING

MOTION: Commissioner Tookey moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda for this meeting. Commissioner Perkins seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5A. MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 14, 2005

MOTION: Commissioner Cook moved for the approval of the September 14, 2005 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Smoot and passed by unanimous voice vote approval.

6. OLD BUSINESS

6A. LAGO SECO PARK UPDATE

Senior Administrative Analyst Witzansky reported that there was a significant change in landscape at Lago Seco Park, with construction of the improvement project approximately a third of the way complete. He advised that the latest work to be completed would be trenching for the conduit for electrical systems. He stated that the contractor has completed a significant portion of the concrete work that includes the basketball courts and most of the pathways. He noted that completion of construction

was anticipated mid-January 2006, and that hydro seeding the new grass areas would require an additional two or three months for germination.

6B. DELTHORNE PARK UPDATE

Senior Administrative Analyst Witzansky reported that the project was complete, with fine grading and debris pickup needing to be accomplished.

Recreation Services Administrator Jones distributed an e-mail from resident Kevin Roberts commending staff for the new court and backboards. He noted that the rubberized surface was partially funded with grant money, and its use in other parks was being considered.

Responding to Chairperson McGee's inquiry, Senior Administrative Analyst Witzansky stated that for the most part the surface was vandalism proof.

In response to Commissioner Perkins's inquiry, he advised that sealing the rubberized surface was necessary because of the installed curbing. He noted that future tracks might not have the curbing installed due to concerns about rain damage.

Recreation Services Administrator Jones encouraged Commissioners to get out and walk the half-mile track.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7A. RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING BARBARA BARKER

Chairperson McGee presented Administrative Aide Barbara J. Barker with a resolution honoring her for her dedicated service to the City and the Community Services Department for the past 23 years.

Recreation Services Administrator Jones shared a story about Ms. Barker's involvement with the topping off ceremony at the Sports Center. He stated that Community Services Director Barnett would formally present the resolution to Ms. Barker on October 26, 2005 and that her last day of work will be October 31, 2005.

Commissioners expressed their appreciation, shared other stories about their experiences with Ms. Barker, and bid her a fond farewell.

MOTION: Commissioner Robbins moved to approve and adopt the Resolution recognizing Administrative Aide Barbara J. Barker for her dedicated service to the City of Torrance. Commissioner Tookey seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

8. STANDING COMMITTEE UPDATES

8A. OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

No report.

8B. FACILITIES COMMITTEE

Recreation Services Administrator Jones stated that the Pueblo Park community was still looking over the conceptual plan.

8C. PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

No report.

9. MONTHLY DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY

9A. PARK SERVICES DIVISION

Responding to Commissioner Perkins's inquiry, Senior Administrative Analyst Witzansky advised that Transit ordered all new trash cans and that the concrete cans formerly used at bus stops would be used at the Civic Center and other park locations.

9B. RECREATION SERVICES DIVISION

Recreation Services Administrator Jones discussed the newly formatted Torrance Certified Farmers' Market Monthly Financial Report for September 2005 included in the material of record.

Commissioner Robbins noted a significant drop in attendance and revenues from September 2004 to September 2005 for the Tuesday Market. A brief discussion centered on why there were only three market days listed in September 2005, noting that this would account for the decrease.

Commissioner Perkins suggested adding a fiscal year-to-date total to the report.

Commissioner Tookey suggested that Discovery Park be added to the Graffiti Report.

Recreation Services Administrator Jones reported that September launched all their fall programs and that youth football signups were currently taking place. He noted that registration was down a little this season, possibly due to increased fees. He stated that they have 45% web registration and are looking into an automated phone registration system.

Commissioner Smoot relayed a resident's comments regarding several notification letters received about the after-school program. Recreation Services Administrator Jones explained the different set of materials that were sent out.

Responding to Commissioner Tookey's inquiry regarding an article in the Daily Breeze about capital funding, Senior Administrative Analyst Witzansky stated that the City was contemplating providing the school district with one time monies from the General Fund year-end carry over funds.

Chairperson McGee inquired about the renovation at the ATTIC. Recreation Services Administrator Jones described improvements, funded through Youth Council donations, that include new windows and flooring.

He encouraged Commissioners to read Month in Review at the Madrona Marsh Preserve and described the recent dead tree removal at the Preserve.

10. ORALS

10A. Recreation Services Administrator Jones provided information about the Halloween Carnival on October 31, 2005.

Commissioner Taniguchi and Chairperson McGee volunteered to participate as judges for the pumpkin contest.

10B. Recreation Services Administrator Jones announced the 26th Annual Turkey Trot on Thanksgiving morning, November 24, 2005.

10C. Senior Administrative Analyst Witzansky stated that the ribbon cutting ceremony for the Torrance Art Museum was held on October 11, 2005.

10D. Commissioner Tookey expressed an interest in participating in the Youth Council interviews next week and challenged fellow Commissioners to participate in the Turkey Trot.

10E. Commissioner Perkins stated that he enjoyed attending the Torrance Art Museum opening.

10F. Commissioner Perkins informed staff that there was a sagging bench in the pocket park at Sartori Avenue and Torrance Boulevard.

10G. Commissioner Robbins initiated a brief conversation about the person feeding cats at the Madrona Marsh Preserve.

10H. Chairperson McGee stated that the Torrance Art Museum was impressive and an asset to the City.

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: At 7:50 p.m., Commissioner Robbins moved to adjourn the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting to November 9, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Perkins and, hearing no objection, Chairperson McGee so ordered.

Approved as Amended November 9, 2005 s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk
